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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5362**

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**State of Washington**

**60th Legislature**

**2007 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Agriculture & Rural Economic Development  
(originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen, Pridemore, Rasmussen and  
Kline)

READ FIRST TIME 02/19/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to a conservation futures levy; and amending RCW  
2 84.34.230 and 29A.36.210.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 84.34.230 and 2005 c 449 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) Conservation futures are a useful tool for counties to preserve  
7 lands of public interest for future generations. Counties are  
8 encouraged to use some conservation futures as one tool for salmon  
9 preservation purposes.

10 (2) For the purpose of acquiring conservation futures and other  
11 rights and interests in real property pursuant to RCW 84.34.210 and  
12 84.34.220, and for maintaining and operating any property acquired with  
13 these funds, a county may levy an amount not to exceed six and one-  
14 quarter cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation against the  
15 assessed valuation of all taxable property within the county.

16 (3) In addition to the levy under subsection (1) of this section,  
17 a county may levy an amount not to exceed six and one-quarter cents per  
18 thousand dollars of assessed valuation against the assessed valuation  
19 of all taxable property within the county. At least one-half of the

1 revenues from this levy shall be used to acquire conservation easements  
2 on farm and agricultural land or purchase the development rights to  
3 farm and agricultural land. Such acquisition of a conservation  
4 easement or purchase of a development right shall be made in a way to  
5 retain the long-term farm and agricultural use of the land. The  
6 remaining revenues from this levy may be used for the purpose of  
7 acquiring conservation futures and other rights and interests in real  
8 property pursuant to RCW 84.34.210 and 84.34.220, and for maintaining  
9 and operating any property acquired with these funds. A county shall  
10 not impose the levy under this subsection for more than ten years  
11 unless specifically authorized at a general election by a majority of  
12 the registered voters of the county voting on the proposition. The  
13 ballot proposition submitted to the voters shall conform with RCW  
14 29A.36.210.

15 (4) The limitations in RCW 84.52.043 shall not apply to the tax  
16 ((levy)) levies authorized in this section.

17 (5) Any rights or interests in real property acquired under this  
18 section after July 24, 2005, must be located within the assessing  
19 county. Further, the county must determine if the rights or interests  
20 in real property acquired with these funds would reduce the capacity of  
21 land suitable for development necessary to accommodate the allocated  
22 housing and employment growth, as adopted in the countywide planning  
23 policies. When actions are taken that reduce capacity to accommodate  
24 planned growth, the jurisdiction shall adopt reasonable measures to  
25 increase the capacity lost by such actions.

26 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.36.210 and 2004 c 80 s 2 are each amended to read  
27 as follows:

28 (1) The ballot proposition authorizing a taxing district to impose  
29 the regular property tax levies authorized in RCW 36.69.145, 67.38.130,  
30 84.52.069, or 84.52.135 shall contain in substance the following:

31 "Shall the . . . . . (insert the name of the taxing district) be  
32 authorized to impose regular property tax levies of . . . . . (insert  
33 the maximum rate) or less per thousand dollars of assessed valuation  
34 for each of . . . . . (insert the maximum number of years allowable)  
35 consecutive years?

36 Yes . . . . .   
37 No . . . . .

1 Each voter shall indicate either "Yes" or "No" on his or her ballot  
2 in accordance with the procedures established under this title.

3 (2) The ballot proposition authorizing a taxing district to impose  
4 a permanent regular tax levy under RCW 84.52.069 or 84.34.230(3) shall  
5 contain the following:

6 "Shall the . . . . . (insert the name of the taxing district) be  
7 authorized to impose a PERMANENT regular property levy of . . . . .  
8 (insert the maximum rate) or less per thousand dollars of assessed  
9 valuation?

10 Yes . . . . .

11 No . . . . .

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